

AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS:

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listings, of claims in the application:

LISTING OF CLAIMS:

Claims 1 to 5 (Canceled)

6. (Currently Amended) A method of manufacturing a titanium-based carbonitride alloy ~~comprising~~ consisting of 9-14 at% Co, 1-3 at% Nb, 3-8 at% W, C and N having a C/(N+C) ratio of 0.50-0.75, hard constituents with undissolved Ti(C,N) cores and balance Ti, the method comprising: mixing hard constituent powders of TiC_xN_{1-x} , x having a value of 0.46-0.70, NbC and WC with powder of Co, pressing into bodies of desired shape and sintered in a N_2 -CO-Ar atmosphere at a temperature in the range 1370-1500 °C. for 1.5-2h in order to obtain the desired amount of undissolved Ti(C,N) cores the amount of Ti(C,N) powder is 50-70 wt-% of the powder mixture, its grain size is 1-3 μm and the sintering temperature and sintering time are chosen to give an amount of undissolved Ti(C,N) cores between 26 and 37 vol% of the hard constituents.

7. (Previously Presented) A titanium based carbonitride alloy consisting of:
- 9-14 at% Co;
 - 1-3 at% Nb;
 - 3-8 at% W;
 - C and N having a C/(N+C) ratio of 0.50-0.75;

hard constituents with undissolved Ti(C,N) cores, wherein the amount of undissolved Ti(C,N) cores is between 26 and 37 vol% of the hard constituents and the balance being one or more complex carbonitride phases; and
balance Ti.

8. (Previously Presented) The alloy according to claim 7, wherein the alloy contains 10-13 at% Co.

9. (Previously Presented) The alloy according to claim 7, wherein the alloy contains 1.5-2.5 at% Nb.

10. (Previously Presented) The alloy according to claim 7, wherein the alloy contains 3-4 at% W.

11. (Previously Presented) The alloy according to claim 7, wherein the amount of undissolved Ti(C,N) cores is between 27 and 35 vol% of the hard constituents.

12. (Previously Presented) The alloy according to claim 7, wherein the Ti(C,N) cores contain TiC_xN_{1-x} and a C/(C+N) ratio in the Ti(C,N) cores is 0.46-0.70.

13. (New) The method according to claim 6, wherein the hard constituents with undissolved Ti(C,N) cores include undissolved Ti(C,N) in an amount of between 26 and 37 vol% of the hard constituents and a balance of one or more complex carbonitride phases.

14. (New) The method according to claim 6, wherein the amount of undissolved Ti(C,N) cores is between 27 and 35 vol% of the hard constituents.